



Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

UNIVERSITY OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK

AUTHORIZED ANNOUNCEMENTS OF RECENT ACTION BY THE REGENTS.

Charters.—Cascadilla school was chartered as a joint stock corporation.

Junior academic school charters were granted to Champlain institute and to St. Mary's academy, and middle academic school charters to St. Gabriel's academy and to St. Joachim's academy.

To the Christian college in China was granted a charter similar to that of the Protestant college of Sao Paulo, Brazil, which provides that no degrees shall be conferred by the college except on such conditions as may be approved from time to time by the regents.

A three year provisional charter was granted to the New York Preparatory school on condition that it should satisfy the committee that it had a satisfactory lease of a suitable place for carrying on its work.

Admissions.—Reports of inspectors being satisfactory, the Boys' high school of Brooklyn, Pratt institute high school and the academic departments of the union schools at Andes, Delaware Co.; Bergen, Genesee Co.; Mineville, Essex Co.; Monticello, Sullivan Co.; Orchard Park, Erie Co.; Pittsford, Monroe Co. were admitted to the university.

Under the new system of grading, certificates of admission were also granted to academic departments of union schools as follows: junior, to Knowlesville; middle, to Long Island City; senior, to Port Leyden.

Libraries.—Absolute charters were granted to the public libraries at Dansville, Ogdensburg, North Tonawanda and Tonawanda, to Syracuse central library, Fort Hamilton free library, Sherman free library at Port Henry, and Ilion district library; provisional charters to the public libraries at Glen Haven, Keene Valley, Mohawk, Philmont, and Springville.

Erwin library and institute of Boonville was admitted with its present charter.

Names Changed.—The name of German Martin Luther college was changed to German Martin Luther seminary.

Corporations Dissolved.—The institutions known as the College of Midwifery, the New York college of massage, and the Columbia college of midwifery all of New York, as corporations were dissolved and prohibited from using hereafter the name college or university.

Inspection of North Granville seminary showed that instead of having the \$50,000 equipment reported by the trustees, the property had passed out of their hands, and that they had without investigating his record elected J. C. M. Johnston, a stranger claiming to be a clergyman, as president of the trustees and prin-

cipal of the seminary. This legally elected president had advertised the school under various names, sent out several thousand fraudulent circulars, and then left for parts unknown just before the U. S. postal officers could arrest him for illegal use of the mails. The so-called seminary had one teacher and four students occupying a room rented from the owner of the building.

Its charter was therefore revoked, and its books and apparatus were recalled.

Through the complaint of a teacher of last year who called at the office with her lawyer to learn if any aid could be given in securing her salary, it was learned that the trustees of an academy in the university had farmed out the school and that in this way an institution advertised to the world as under supervision of the regents and therefore having the state's indorsement as reputable and responsible was employing teachers whom it had no means to pay.

The trustees of another academy in the University had leased their school outright to a principal who carried it on as a private enterprise. The trustees refused to report on the ground that they were carrying on no school, while the principal claimed that he was not under visitation, having merely rented the property from the individual owner and that the school was wholly his private affair. The office, by advice of the attorney-general, ruled that the law requires the charter to be returned to the regents as soon as the trustees discontinue educational operations, and that if the charter is not surrendered the report must be made and the school inspected.

In the above cases all outstanding bills were paid and the required report made so that no farther action was necessary, but the regents passed the following ordinance:—

The leasing of any institution of the University by its trustees to any individual or corporation shall, unless such lease is first approved by the regents, be considered a discontinuance of its educational operations and shall require the surrender of its charter under Section 31 of the University law.

Inspection.—Section 26 of the University law forbids the regents from apportioning the academic fund to institutions which have not been personally inspected by a University officer. The law was passed because of cases where state money had been improperly used, and experience proves it impossible to rely on the sworn annual reports without actual inspection by experts. By constant work during the entire school year, the present inspectors could not possibly reach more than two-thirds of the institutions entitled to share in the academic fund. The law therefore can be complied with only by increasing the force, for an inspection only once in two or three years would be an evasion of the plain intent of the law. Where a good school was conducted last

year, this year downright fraud on the public was being practised, and on the report of the inspector the regents promptly annulled the charter.

The inspection division was therefore directed to inspect and report in writing on every academic institution in the University at least once in each academic year and the appointment of such extra inspectors as may be required was authorized.

Honorary Inspectors.—Beside the inspection required by law there is a growing demand from schools for examination of their educational methods not only by the regular academic inspectors, but also by university and college professors who because actually engaged in teaching college students can thus give suggestions better adapted to a school preparing students for college than could an inspector who has not been in college himself for fifteen or twenty years.

The regents authorized the appointment of honorary inspectors from the faculties of the state who may be called on when desirable to supplement the work of the regular regents' inspectors in examining and reporting in writing on the equipment and methods of institutions asking such special service and willing to pay the expenses and fees of the honorary inspectors.

Cancellation for Fraud.—Several cases were reported where students had deliberately tampered with credentials or been guilty of dishonesty in connection with an examination. By a standing rule the result of the current examination is cancelled in all such cases, but this penalty has been found insufficient in some cases where a student knowing that he could not pass a subject honestly attempts to do so by indirection with a feeling that the only penalty he will suffer will be the cancellation of that single examination.

In case of proof of fraud in connection with examinations or credentials the office was authorized to make such cancellation of previous credentials as may seem just in each case.

Professional-degree Requirement.—Applications are frequently made with various plausible arguments for some modification of the regents' rules so that the preliminary education required may be made up during or after the close of the professional study. The regents insist that the object of the preliminaries is not alone to insure that candidates have that amount of general education, but even more, to insure that they are prepared to pursue their professional studies intelligently.

It was decided that under no circumstances shall the preliminary examination be allowed to be taken after instead of before the professional study and examination, for any degree conferred by the regents.

Requests were submitted that certain professional examinations conducted by the regents should be given in April as heretofore instead of in May as now arranged. The regents promptly de-

clined to consider any proposition that would encourage the shorter year of study which has been the bane of the professional and technical schools. The tendency of the University is to lengthen the college and professional school year as fast as practicable till it approximates the standard on which all the academic examinations are based; 40 weeks of five days or 200 days of work out of 365 each year, certainly not an excessive amount.

Dental Degrees.—A syllabus is to be prepared and examinations offered for degrees in dentistry on a plan similar to that for law and medical examinations for degrees; the fee for such examination to be \$20.

The examinations are to be given at the time of the May law and medical examinations.

No candidate will be admitted to these examinations who has not completed a high school course as minimum of general education preliminary to his professional study and the standards set for the professional work will place this degree on a higher plane.

Public Libraries Department.—At the close of the year personal visits had been made or correspondence held about new libraries with 260 places. 39 new libraries had been chartered; two formerly incorporated had been admitted to the University; 8,100 books were in use in the travelling libraries and 500 more ordered; 58 libraries had been sent out and three more were just going; 16 had already been returned after the first six months of service, in which 1,042 borrowers had read 3,833 books. This would show for the traveling libraries already sent out about 4,000 borrowers reading 15,000 books; \$7,748.27 had been apportioned to 56 libraries for buying books, the sums ranging from \$15 to \$734, or an average of \$138 to each. As at least an equal amount was raised in cash in each place this represented over \$15,000 already expended for new books. The entire list of apportionments was read in detail to show how widely the new system was reaching all parts of the state and how highly it was appreciated.

Travelling libraries by common consent of experts are doing more than double as much for the money as could be done by any other system of expenditure.

It was decided to apportion to any library \$200 for each year, or, for the present fiscal year, as much as it received from the district library money in 1892.

Allowance for Books.—Cash in hand has been required before making academic apportionments. As it is often much better for a library to receive books than money, if care is taken that the books shall be really worth the amount claimed, it was voted that approved books not owned by the public when transferred to a public library under regents' supervision may be accepted to the extent of half their appraised value as the equivalent of money in hand to be used as a basis of apportionment of an equal amount from the public library money for buying approved books.